

CHAPTER 20: RESPECT

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How many times Leen and Ria have wrestled with that....As many times pastors, Christian leaders did not show respect for all what Leen and Ria had been doing. And as you have read there has been quite some animosity to Leen and Ria as people, when they were young. They have always worked hard and prayed a lot that those negative experiences would never come in the way and would 'colour' their decisions.

To be innovators.....rejection comes along with that, so be prepared if you want to impact the status quo....

But sometimes God corrects what is incorrect:

1999: *Leen* became **knight** in the Order of Oranje-Nassau as Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands had recognised the enormous contributions for the culture and the State. Some Christian leaders were quite surprised and were put to shame as they had never realised and respected the enormous effects of Leens work and ministry

2003: In April *Ria* also received the Royal honour to become **member** of the Order of Oranje-Nassau as Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands had recognised Ria's special contributions for the wellbeing of many.....And again surprise.....but for Ria it was well deserved.

It is very rare that such happens to a couple, so it is quite a testimony of restoration of respect.

This does not mean any fight is over. You always need to be aware about gossip, jealousy, sometimes we had to fight not getting bitter. But thank God, we never became that. We learned that THE answer for our personal lives lies in prayer for those persons, blessing them, acting with love...